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**PETITION TO INCORPORATE, 1846** 

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To the Honorable the Genl Assembly of the State of Missouri. The undersigned Citizens of Ste Genevieve County in the State of Missouri would respectfully represent unto you, that in their opinion it would manifestly lend to their benefit and the general benefit of the Country if the present Propietors of the "Iron Mountain" could be incorporated in order that Capital might be brought from the East and expended in the development of this immense mineral resourse of our State= Your petitioners would state that they are informed and believe that the "Iron Mountain property" is once more free from all incumbrance and in the hands of those who are anxious to bring its immense resources into active operation, the charter which was granted by the Legislature several years is understood is such an one as can never be carried out, and with which the present propietors of the property have nothing to do, the former Company or firm of Vandoren, Pease & Co having entirely failed= We look upon this matter as a local affair in a great measure, one in which we are vitally interested. The property is extensive and of great value and can only be put into active & beneficial operation by a chartered company owning the property and having a large Cash Capital which would always be a guarantee to the creditors and a protection to the stockholders who your petitioners think ought not to be responsible beyond the amount of their stock, which with the estate or property held liable would always be adequate security for any demands that could possibly accrue against the company = Your petitioners therefore most earnestly request that you will grant to the propietors of the property a liberal charter for a Company to make and manufacture iron & steel in all its various branches with power to construct a Rail or McAdamised road to some point on the Mississippi River and that such charter be granted for a term of years! upon such principles as will induce capitalists to invest their money and at the same time protect the public against imposition. In the main your petitioners are opposed to corporations but the present case they regard as an exception the immense value of this property & the large capital necessary to carry it into effective operation; render it necessary to procure capital from abroad, this can only be obtained in the way of subscriptions to Stock. Individual capital and enterprise is wholly insuffient to develop our mineral resources which have already remained dormant too long, and if not aided by means from abroad must remain so and await the slow process of accumulation of wealth & enterprise induced by time - Your petitioners therefore pray that this their petition be heard & granted and other wise passed upon as to you shall seem meet & just.- - -

**PETITION TO INCORPORATE, 1846** 

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